AC.4412 (3)

RURAL DISTRICT OF ELHAM

KENT

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1968

OFFICERS AND STAFF

Clerk to the Authority	John Bowdon A.C.C.S.

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health	C.F. Lynch M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	J.A. Byrne M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., D.T.M.H.,
Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector	R. Finn, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert.Meat & Other Foods Inspector.
Assistant Surveyor and Additional Public Health Inspector	E.W. Rathmell, Cert Meat and Other Foods Inspector.
Building Inspector	R. Woodward
Technical Assistant	G. Keutenius from 29.1.68
General Foreman	M. Brisley
Clerk & Typist	Miss J. Boorman
Rodent Operator	J. Leadbeatter
Sewage Works Foreman	C.R. Gurr
Refuse Collection, Cesspool Emptying and Sewer Gang	4 Drivers 6 Loaders 3 Assistants

STATISTICS

Area	36,676 acres.
Population - Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population .. .. (1961 Census figure was 9,740)	11,210
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1969	£392,399
Sum represented by penny rate	£1,524
Total rainfall	31.74 ins.
Air Temperatures	Max. 90°F Min. 15°F
No. of days when rain fell	182
No. of days when snow fell	9

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Health Department,
86 Maison Dieu Road,
Dover.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Elham Rural District Council:

Ladies and Gentlemen;

It is my honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Elham Rural District for the year 1968, during which period Dr. C.F. Lynch was your Medical Officer of Health. Dr. Lynch retired at the end of February after serving the Authority for nearly eleven years and we wish him a long and happy retirement.

I apologise for the belated presentation of this report, due principally to staffing difficulties, now fortunately resolved on the medical side by the appointment of Dr. J.Ll.T. Graham who was welcomed as Deputy Medical Officer of Health on 2nd June, 1969.

The vital statistics call for no special comment but members are asked to bear in mind that they relate only to a comparatively very small population and no trend assessment should be made, or in fact is possible, on the basis of any rise or fall in any particular statistic.

Infectious disease notifications showed a considerable decrease compared with the figures for last year due wholly to the decline in the incidence of measles and whooping cough, while the prevalence of tuberculosis in the district can now be presented more accurately following the investigations carried out by Dr. J. Spencer Jones and his staff.

The report of Mr. Finn, Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, refers to the environmental health activities of the Department and it is gratifying to record that in a widely scattered rural area such as ours nearly 99% of the total number of dwelling houses have piped water supplies and over 70% are connected to public sewers.

One hundred per cent meat inspection at the two private slaughterhouses was achieved to the credit of the staff, while in the matter of refuse collection comment is again made on the desirability for the substitution of weekly collection from the rear of premises for the existing fortnightly kerbside collection and it is to be hoped that this will be implemented in the near future.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure that Dr. Lynch would wish me on his behalf to thank you and the members of the Public Health and other Council staff for the support and co-operation afforded him during 1968.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

J.A. BYRNE

Medical Officer of Health

15th September, 1969.

SECTION A

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year:

1. Births: (Figures as supplied by Registrar General)

(a) Registered Live Births:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	61	61	122
Illegitimate	9	3	12
	70	64	134

Comparability Factor 1.29

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population:-

Crude	11.95
Adjusted for comparative purposes	15.42
Legitimate	14.04
Illegitimate	1.38

(b) Stillbirths:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	3	-	3

Stillbirths Rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths) 22

2. Deaths:

The figures relating to deaths used in the tables in this Report are those compiled locally adjusted for inward and outward transfers; the number of deaths registered during 1968 totalled 290, outward transfers 117 and inward transfers 69 giving a net allocation to Elham of 242 deaths. This total is one less (female) than the figure supplied by the Registrar General. The classification of these deaths is obtained from the information submitted by the local Registrar in his weekly return and the disparity between the figures of the Registrar General and those compiled locally is minor only and of no significance statistically.

	Male	Female	Total
Registered	120	122	242

Comparability Factor 0.39

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population:-

Crude	21.59
Adjusted for comparative purposes	8.42

3. Infant Mortality

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	2	2

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births: 15

4. Causes of Death and Age Groups in 1968:

A revised cause classification of deaths has been introduced by the Registrar General in the mortality statistics for 1968 following the production by the World Health Organisation of the eighth edition of the "Manual of the International Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death". Deaths are now classified under 65 headings in lieu of the 36 in use up to the year 1967.

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	4	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	10	6	16
Diabetes Mellitus	4	3	7
Other diseases of nervous system etc.	2	1	3
Hypertensive disease	2	11	13
Ischaemic heart disease	20	18	38
Other Forms of heart disease	13	10	23
Cerebrovascular disease	21	29	50
Other diseases of circulatory system	7	12	19
Pneumonia	17	9	26
Bronchitis and emphysema	6	2	8
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
Appendicitis	-	1	1
Internal obstruction and hernia	-	1	1
Other diseases of digestive system	1	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Other diseases genito-urinary system	3	2	5
Diseases of musculo-sketelal system	1	-	1
Congenital anomalies	1	1	2
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	-	1	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	2	2
Motor vehicle accidents	3	1	4
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide and self inflicted injuries	1	-	1
TOTAL	120	122	242

Age Groups in which Deaths occurred:

Age Groups	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	-	2	2
1 year	-	-	-
2 - 4 years	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	2	1	3
25 - 44 years	1	1	2
45 - 64 years	19	7	26
65 - 74 years	32	25	57
75 years and over	66	86	152
TOTALS	120	122	242

5. Specially Recorded Deaths:

Cancer (all ages) - 30

Rate per 1,000 estimated population:

	Elham Rural District	England and Wales
(1) Lung and Bronchus	0.71	0.593
(2) Other sites	1.96	1.723

Age Groups in which deaths from Cancer occurred:

Cancer of	45-64		65-74		75 & over		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Lung, Bronchus	-	1	3	3	1	-	4	4
Breast	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	3
Stomach	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1
Other sites	3	2	2	4	5	-	10	6
TOTAL	3	4	6	8	6	2	15	14

The death from leukaemia was of a male in the age group "75 years and over".

6. Comparative Rates:

(per 1,000 Home Population)	Elham Rural District 1967	Elham Rural District 1968	England and Wales 1968
BIRTHS: Live Births			
Crude	12.93	11.95	16.9
Adjusted	16.68	15.42	-
STILLBIRTH: Per 1,000 total (live & still) births	7	22	14
DEATHS:			
Crude	19.00	21.59	11.9
Adjusted	7.03	8.42	-

INFANT MORTALITY: (Deaths per 1,000 Live Births)

	Elham Rural District 1967	Elham Rural District 1968	England & Wales 1968
All causes under 1 year of age	14 (2 deaths)	15 (2 deaths)	18

MATERNAL MORTALITY: (per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births)

All causes	-	-	0.24

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE

(a) Hospitals

St. Mary's Hospital, Etchinghill, situated within the Rural District, provides accommodation for the aged and infirm and chronic sick and is administered by the South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

Appropriate facilities for the treatment of acute cases, maternity cases and infectious diseases are provided by the Board's Hospitals elsewhere in the region.

(b) Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service undertakes the examination of pathological and other specimens as well as the routine bacteriological examination of water, milk and other samples.

(c) Nursing and Midwifery Service

These domiciliary services are provided by the Kent County Council which is the administrative authority for them in the Rural area. The following information on the work of the services during 1968 has been provided by the County Medical Officer.

(1)	Number of home nurses working in District	*8
	Number of Patients attended	368
	Number of attendances including casual visits	10,425
(2)	Number of Midwives working in District	*7
	Number of births attended	42

*including one Group relief.

(d) Clinics and Welfare Centres

The County Council as the Local Health Authority and Education Authority provides various specialist and consultant services for expectant and nursing mothers, infants, toddlers and children of school age. The Regional Hospital Board also provides clinics serving the Rural area, including those for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and venereal diseases.

(e) Ambulance Service

The service is administered and operated by the Kent County Council with ambulance stations in the neighbouring towns.

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis) notified during 1968 by Age Groups (Corrected).

Age Groups	Scarlet ever	Whooping Cough	*Pneumonia	Measles	*Erysipelas
Under 5 years	-	4	-	1	-
5 - 14 years	2	6	-	2	-
15 - 24 years	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44 years	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64 years	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	1	-	1
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	10	1	3	1

*Pneumonia and erysipelas were not notifiable after 1st October, 1968.

2. Food Poisoning

No confirmed case of food poisoning occurred in the District.

3. Immunisation and Vaccination

The Schemes for Whooping Cough and Diptheria immunisation and Smallpox and Poliomyelitis Vaccination were continued under the administration of the Kent County Council and the following statistics for 1968 are made available by the courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

(a) Whooping Cough Immunisation:-

133 children received primary whooping cough immunisation.

(b) Diptheria Immunisation:-

Number of children resident in the District who received:-

(i) Primary Inoculations 136
(ii) Reinforcing inoculations 203

(c) Smallpox Vaccination:-

In view of the amendment to the County Council's proposals under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, regarding records of vaccination against smallpox, the following is the sole information now available on this matter:-

Primary Vaccination 1 Year	Re-Vaccination School age but under 8 years
118	1

(d) Poliomyelitis Vaccination:

Number of vaccinations given in 1968 (based on returns submitted to Ministry of Health).

Year of Birth	Primary	Re-inforcing
1968	29	-
1967	85	-
1966	13	-
1965	-	-
1964	-	20
1961-1963	-	76
1951-1960	-	1
TOTALS	127	97

4. Tuberculosis

New cases of tuberculosis notified during 1968 were as follows:-

	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
	-	2	-	1
1967	2	-	-	-

Age Grouping of the new cases notified:-

15 - 24 years - 1 female (pulmonary)
45 - 64 years - 1 female (non-pulmonary)
75 years & over - 1 female (pulmonary)

The following Annual Statement of Tuberculosis is compiled from the four Quarterly Returns to the County Medical Officer:-

	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
(a) Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Reg. as at 1st Jan. 1968	36	24	2	3
(b) Number of cases notified under Regs. of 1952 for the first time during the year.	-	2	-	1
(c) Otherwise added to Register.	-	-	-	-
(d) Cases removed from Register during the year including recoveries or deaths (excluding deaths of un-notified cases).	9	4	1	-
Adjusting deduction made as result of check with Registers of Chest Physician.	19	18	1	2
(e) Number of cases on Register at end of 1968.	8	4	-	2

There was no deaths of un-notified cases of tuberculosis during the year.

Of the fourteen patients whose names were removed from the Register during the year, three male patients died (although pulmonary infections, in no instance was a death attributable to tuberculosis), one (male pulmonary) was regarded as recovered and one (male pulmonary) removed from the area; the remaining casenames removed and the adjusting deduction resulted from an exhaustive and detailed check of the Registers undertaken by Dr. J. Spencer Jones in conjunction with the staff of my Department. The Annual totals previously carried over from year to year were obviously false and unrealistic due to a number of reasons inter alia (1) the registers had been operating over half a century probably without even having been checked with the clinic registers, (2) there has never been a statutory obligation for patients to notify change of address with the result that many moved and became lost to both clinic and office records. Now a more accurate, and fortunately less fearsome, assessment of the prevalence of tuberculosis can be presented.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, (regarding tuberculous persons employed in the milk trade) or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, (regarding the compulsory removal of tuberculous patients to hospital).

5. Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1952 : Aliens Order 1953: Commonwealth Immigrants Act, 1962

Lympne Airport:

4,703 Commonwealth citizens subject to control under the Commonwealth Immigrants Act, 1962, and 33,273 aliens arrived at the Airport during the year; one alien was medically examined.

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Report of the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

Section D

Sanitary Circumstances in the Area

1. Water Supply

The quality and quantity of the water supplied by the two Statutory Water Undertakings was satisfactory throughout the year.

Examination of samples taken during the year

	Bacteriological Examination		
	No. of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Statutory supply undertakings	26	26	Nil
Private sources piped to dwellings	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other private sources	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Chemical Examination		
	No. of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Statutory supply undertakings	4	4	Nil
Private sources piped to dwellings	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other private sources	5	5	Nil

98.16% of the total number of dwelling houses in the district had piped supplies of water.

Total No. of premises not connected to the public water supply - 77.

No. of houses with piped supply

Parish	Estimated population	No. of dwellings	Direct to dwellings
Acrise	166	57	52
Elham	1,319	536	526
Elmsted	298	99	99
Hawkinge	1,598	533	527
Lyminge	2,149	746	732
Lympne	879	355	350
Monks Horton	104	45	45
Newington	340	131	122
Paddlesworth	32	12	12
Postling	166	66	65
Saltwood	895	345	345
Sellindge	995	410	400
Stanford	544	173	169
Stelling Minnis	473	180	180
Stowting	163	69	63
Swingfield	1,089	448	441
TOTALS	11,210	4,205	4,128

Average number of persons per dwelling 2.66

2. Public Swimming Baths

There were no public swimming baths in the District.
No. of school swimming baths 4

3. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Total No. of premises connected to public sewers 2,990
Total No. of premises connected to cesspools or septic tanks (estimated) 1,215

71.10% of the total number of dwelling houses in the District were connected to the public sewers.

(a) Sellindge, Stanford and Lympne
Joint Scheme with East Ashford R.D.C.

This scheme was completed during the year and a further 36 additional premises were connected.

The extension, which included a small pumping station, to serve Lympne Place Prep. School and some adjoining dwellings was also completed.

Ministry approval was sought for a further extension comprising a sewage pumping station, six inch sewer and rising main to serve Lympne Airport, Lympne Country Club, South Coast Welders Ltd., Skyfotos and some adjoining houses.

(b) Cesspool Emptying

Cesspools were emptied by direct labour with one 1,200 gallon Ford-Eagle emptier and by hiring one vehicle from Messrs. Purle Bros. Ltd. from time to time, when the delay between receipt of requests to empty cesspools and the actual emptying became excessive.

No separate charge was levied for cesspool emptying and no limit was impsoed on the number of emptyings per cesspool.

4. General

Premises	No. in district	No. of visits	No. of defects found	No. remedied
Bakehouses	4	7	Nil	Nil
Dairies (retail)	2	10	Nil	Nil
Registered distributors of milk	28	34	1	1
Ice-cream premises	47	39	Nil	Nil
Slaughterhouses	2	287	1	1
Other places where food is prepared	94	165	10	9
Offensive trades	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Factories: Power	28	16	Nil	Nil
Non-power	4	5	2	2

Factories Act 1961

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of inspections	No. of written notices	No. of occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	5	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	28	16	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authorities (excl. out-workers)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	32	21	Nil	Nil

There were 6 out-workers in the District.

Summary of Visits

Food premises, shops, slaughterhouses, etc.	405
Factories	21
Sanitary defects, housing and improvement grants ..	272
Petroleum storage	92
Sampling and water supplies	27
Building operations and drainage	4,372
Council house maintenance	1,033
Town and Country Planning	420
Miscellaneous	168
Total No. of inspections of all kinds during the year	6,810

5. Control of Infestations

Rodent Control

Properties other than sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No. of properties in the District	4,323	317
2. (a) Total No. of properties (incl. nearby premises) inspected following notification	341	12
(b) No. infested by (i) Rats	185	10
(ii) Mice	44	-
3. (a) Total No. of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	75	61
(b) No. infested by (i) Rats	16	8
(ii) Mice	1	19

No sewers were infested by rats during the year.

Vermin and Insects

No cases of bed bug infestation came to light during the year, but there were a number of dwellings infested with cluster flies, particularly in attics and roof spaces.

6. Refuse Collection and Disposal

Fortnightly kerbside collection of dustbins was undertaken by direct labour using one Austin 12/20 cu.yd. rear loader and one Ford S & D 35 cu. yd. Crushload rear loader.

At the end of the year the London Boroughs' Management Services Unit was engaged to prepare a Work Study of all the outside staff, but in particular the Refuse Collection Service.

It is hoped that following full investigation spare capacity will become available and that it will be possible to provide a weekly collection from the rear of premises, the need for which I have reported on annually since 1964.

Refuse was disposed of at the Blindhouse Lane Tip which has almost reached the end of its useful life.

During the year joint negotiations were entered into with the Boroughs of Folkestone, Dover and Hythe and the Rural District Council of Dover for the provision of a refuse destructor, probably at Hawkinge.

SECTION B

Food

1. Milk

No. of registered distributors	28
No. of registered dairies	2

2. Ice Cream

No ice cream or iced lollies were manufactured in the District. 47 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream.

3. Meat and Other Foods

Two private slaughterhouses were licensed during the year.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	565	35	222	5,798	4,643
Number inspected	565	35	222	5,798	4,643
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	28	8	11	308	420
% of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	4.95	22.85	4.95	5.31	9.05
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	18
% of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.004
No cases of cysticerci were found					

The following foodstuffs were surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Home killed beef	1	6	3	5
Home killed pork	1	8	0	23
Home killed mutton	1	0	3	1
Miscellaneous	-	-	2	5
	3	16	1	6

Slaughtering by a wholesale butcher at Swingfield Slaughterhouse has meant working after normal office hours on the following days:

Sundays	Nil
Mondays	52
Tuesdays	50
Wednesdays	5
Thursdays	14
Fridays	2
Saturdays	8
	131 days

This is a decrease of 19 compared with 1967.

A total of 300 hours were spent on meat inspection, of which 143 hours were outside normal office hours, including all Bank Holidays except Christmas.

No overtime payments were made for this work.

SECTION F

HOUSING

1. No. of Informal Notices served and complied with (Housing and Public Health Acts) 14
   No. of houses demolished 8
   No. of Statutory Notices served 1

2. Improvement Grants

   (a) Discretionary

   No. of applications approved 2
   No. of dwellings involved 2
   No. of applications refused .. .. Nil
   Amount of grants paid .. .. £395. 0s. 0d.

   (b) Standard

   No. of applications approved (Normal limit) 22
   No. of applications approved (Higher limit) 5
   No. of grants paid (dwellings) 14
   Amount of grants paid .. .. £1,756. 4s. 0d.

3. Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act 1960

No. of licensed caravan sites	5
No. of caravans (estimated)	100

4. Building Operations

During the year 239 applications were considered under the Town and Country Planning Acts and 487 applications of all kinds were received.

5. Council Houses

29 old peoples' bungalows and 45 three bedroomed houses were built and 11 were in course of erection at the end of the year.

397 dwellings in the District were owned by the local authority; this was 9.44% of the total number of dwellings in the District.

6. Privately Built Houses

147 private dwellings were erected during the year and 84 were in course of erection at the end of the year.

1405 post war private houses have been erected up to the 31st December, 1968.

41.6% of all houses in the District, including Council Houses are post war.

SECTION G

Miscellaneous

1. Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts, 1928 - 36 and Regulations

All petroleum storage installations in the District were inspected with the Fire Prevention Officer of the Kent Fire Brigade.

42 licences were in force during the year.

2. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Registration and General Inspections

	No. of premises registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at the end of the year
Offices	-	34
Retail Shops	3	59
Wholesale Shops	-	1
Catering Establishments	-	19
Fuel Storage Depots	-	1
Totals	3	114

Sgd. R. Finn

Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector

Council Offices,
Lyminge.